Beal Early Childhood Center
Grades K - 1
1 Maple Avenue
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
508-841-8860

Calvin Coolidge School
Grades 1 - 4
1 Florence Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
508-841-8880

Floral Street School
Grades 1 - 4
57 Floral Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
508-841-8720

Spring Street School
Grades 1 - 4
123 Spring Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
508-841-8700

Walter J. Paton School
Grades 1 - 4
58 Grafton Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
508-841-8626

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THIRD GRADE
CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

A Guide to Student Learning

This guide highlights a few of the concepts and skills students will learn throughout the year. A more detailed version is available at each school or on the SPS website.

Mission Statement:

The Shrewsbury Public School, in partnership with the community, will provide students with the skills and knowledge for the 21st century, an appreciation of our democratic tradition and the desire to continue to learn throughout life.

English Language Arts

Students will:

- Carry out assigned roles in self-run small-group discussions
- Give oral presentations about experiences or interests using proper eye contact, pace, volume, and clear pronunciation
- Identify common prefixes, word roots, idioms, and figurative phrases
- Use a dictionary or thesaurus appropriately
- Recognize subject-predicate and three basic parts of speech (adjective, noun, verb)
- Identify correct mechanics (punctuation, capitalization), usage, and sentence structure
- Read aloud grade-appropriate text with comprehension and expression
- Identify foreshadowing, sensory details, setting, character, and plot and support them with evidence from the text
- Use correct spelling of high-frequency words
- Form questions about a text and locate facts that answer the reader's questions
- Distinguish cause from effect and fact from fiction
- Identify main ideas and supporting details in a text
- Relate themes in works of fiction and non-fiction to personal experience
- Identify differences between poetry, prose, non-fiction, fiction, and drama
- Identify themes as lessons in stories, fables, and poems for children
- Identify personality traits of characters and thoughts, words, and actions that reveal their personalities
- Identify and use paragraphs, glossary, captions, table of contents, charts, and maps
- Identify a poem's rhyme, rhythm, repetition, sensory images, stanza, verse, and meaning
- Identify natural events explained in origin myths and understand significant character in Greek, Roman, and Norse mythology
- Rehearse and perform stories, plays, and poems for an audience using eye contact, volume, and clear speech

Social Studies

Trimester One

- Use cardinal directions, map scales, legends, and titles to locate places on contemporary maps of New England, Massachusetts and the local community
- Identify and understand the way of life of the Pilgrims and Wampanoags
- Identify the challenges facing the Pilgrims in settling America
- Compare and contrast Puritans and Pilgrims
- Identify the characteristics of the Massachusetts Bay Colony
- Explain why communities need governments and define and give example of barter

Trimester Two

- Identify political, economic, and military developments of the American Revolution
- Understand the purpose of taxes and identify different kinds of taxes

Trimester Three

- Read a biography of a person from Massachusetts and explain the person's life achievements
- Identify characteristics of Shrewsbury's history
- Identify historic buildings, monuments or sites in Shrewsbury and explain their purpose and significance
- Give examples of tax-supported facilities and services provided by their local government

Mathematics

Trimester One

- Select the appropriate operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division)
- Demonstrate in the classroom an understanding of and the ability to use the conventional algorithms for addition and subtraction (up to four-digit numbers)
- Determine which symbol (, , or =) is appropriate for a given mathematical sentence, e.g. 7 x 8 ___ 49 + 6
- Determine values in simple equations (106 – m = 37; 5 = p + 3) (up to 1,000)
- Construct draw conclusions, and make predictions from various representations of data sets, including tables, bar graphs, pictographs, line plots, and tallies.

Trimester Two

- Know multiplication facts through 10 x 10 and related division facts. Use these facts to solve related multiplication problems.
- Demonstrate the and understanding of and the ability to use the conventional algorithms for multiplication (up to two digits by one digit).
- Create, describe, extend and explain visual and numeric patterns, including multiplication patterns up to 100 (e.g. 5, 10, 20, 40)
- Carry out simple unit conversions within a system of measurement, e.g.. cents to dollars and hours to minutes.
- Identify time to the minute on analog and digital locks using a.m. and p.m. Compute elapsed time less than one hour using a clock and a calendar.
- List and count the number of possible combinations of objects from two sets.

Trimester Three

- Demonstrate the understanding of fractions as parts of wholes, parts of a group and on a number line.
- Select, use, and explain the commutative, associative and identity properties.
- Determine which symbol (<, >, or =) is appropriate for a given equation.
- Demonstrate an understanding of length, area, weight and volume
- Estimate and find area and perimeter of a rectangle.

Science and Technology

Students will understand:

- How the properties of water in each of its three states (ice, liquid water, water vapor) affect the water cycle
- How heat from the sun affects the water cycle
- How the structure of a tree (a living thing) enables it to survive in its environment
- How plants use the sun's energy to produce sugars (photosynthesis)
- That trees go through predictable life cycles
- That a life cycle of a monarch (metamorphosis) differs from life cycles of other animals.
- That sound is produced by vibrating objects and requires a medium through which to travel
- The relationship between the rate of vibration and the pitch of the sound